

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A communication system comprising:
2 a first central office switching system;
3 a call processing node, said first call processing node comprising first processor
4 and first memory device coupled to the first processor, the first memory device
5 configured to store first set of instructions to direct the first processor to act in accordance
6 with the first set of instructions; and
7 a communication device to establish a communication path between the first call
8 processing node and the first central office switching system, wherein when the first
9 central office switching system receives a call from a calling party, upon determining the
10 need for enhanced call processing, selects one of a plurality of available call processing
11 nodes, said selection being determined by the type of the call, transfers the call, and caller
12 information to the selected call processing node, whereupon the first set of instructions
13 direct the first call processing node to determine routing information and complete the
14 call.
- 1 2. The communication system as in claim 1, further comprising a second call
2 processing node, said second call processing node comprising second processor and
3 second memory device configured to store second set of instructions to direct the second
4 processor to act in accordance with the second set of instructions.
- 1 3. A method of integrating PSTN with a second network comprising the steps of:
2 receiving a call from a calling party at a central office switching system
3 comprised in the PSTN;
4 determining, upon receiving a second trigger, that the call requires enhanced call
5 processing information resident in a first call processing node attached to a second
6 network; and
7 transferring the call and call information to the first call processing node to
8 provide additional routing information.